

Program

The objectives of the Yukon Outfitters Associations Wolf Pelt Handling Incentive Program are:

- 1) Facilitate Trapping as a recognized economic and cultural activity
- 2) Increase survivability options for ungulates.
- 3) Promote the capacity to get out on the land

The subject of this report was program support of the 2011-12 trapping season.

Listed below are the criteria for application to the program:

A) Wolf pelts must be harvested under a valid Yukon Trappers License

B) Wolf Pelts must be:

- *Harvested during the 2011/2012 trapping season*

Trappers will be required to supply the Yukon Outfitters Association with:

a) Valid Yukon Trappers License

b) Valid Yukon Furbearer Sealing Certificate from the Yukon Department of Environment. (Form # YG(3361) NC3 Rev.02/2005)

Education about the Program was shared with all trappers through direct contact, indirect through Conservation Officers and the YG Trapping Coordinator. The Yukon Trappers Association and the Trappers Cache also facilitated information and acted as collection points.

The program accepted applications for the duration of the trapping season (01 Nov 11-31 March 2012) plus 30 days to allow trappers time to process their harvest.

Overview

A total of \$30,600 was distributed to eligible trappers comprising 153 pelts at \$200 incentive per pelt. The first \$150 was from the YOA and the remaining \$50 from the Enhancement Trust Fund. The YOA also supported this program by providing administrative support, management time, promotions and communications. The Executive Director, supported by the YOA Office Assistant oversaw the program through the direct reporting relationship to the YOA Board of Directors. No Incentives were disbursed without two signing authority signatures from the Board.

Mapping

See Appendix B; 2012

Improvements

Challenges remain with getting legible copies of the required documents from applicants. They are often faxed from poor quality machines and are photocopied prior in order to have a faxable sheet. Part of the education for future years will be to make applicants aware of the need for accurate valid documents. YOA performed due diligence by submitting the names of all program applicant trappers to the Department of Environment to ensure validity.

Discussions with Yukon Government Fur Industry Specialists have and will take place on value added techniques for the skinning and use of wolf fur as part of the recognition of their social and economic value.

Statistics Table 1 Program Cost Estimates and Actual

Expenditure Categories	Budget Item	Projected Cost	Other Funding Source(s) (Potential or Confirmed) (In Kind or Monetary)	Funding Agreement Contributions to date	Actual Costs
1. Capital Expenses <i>(equipment, machinery)</i>	1. 2. 3. etc.				
2. Wages, Contract Services	Program Management Cost Office Assistant wage	20hrs @\$40/hr=\$800 30hrs@\$20/hr=\$600	YOA: \$1400.00		\$1400.00
3. Office & Admin Expenses <i>(telephone, printing, postage)</i>	Based on 5% increase with this Program	\$190.00	YOA: \$190.00		\$190.00
4. Travel Expenses <i>(Accommodation, food, trans)</i>	One trip to Wolf Trapping Workshop to promote Program, Fuel, Food, 1 night accoms	\$300.00	YOA: \$300.00		
5. Materials & Supplies					
6. Facility Expenses					
7. Other	Incentive Amount to disburse to Trapper per wolf pelt.	200 Pelts @ \$50/ea (10,000 originally requested)		\$8,000	\$7,650.00

Statistics Table 2 Contribution breakdown

Number of Incentives Issued	Disbursement per Cheque	Total	YOA Contribution	Enhancement Trust Contribution Portion	Balance return due Enhancement Trust
153	200.00	30,600.00	153 pelts x \$150=\$22,950	153 pelts x \$50=\$7650.00	\$350.00

Summary

The Yukon Outfitters Association was pleased to host this program. It should be recognized that YOA is a not for profit society that raises funds privately through memberships and fund generation by donations. The YOA does not receive Yukon Government funding.

The feedback from the “field” indicates the program is appreciated by the trapping community. While the low number of wolves harvested may not approach the threshold to change the predation balance or impact wolf populations significantly, it does support the intent of Wolf management goals¹ in Yukon as follows:

- “Manage the harvest of wolves in recognition of their social, cultural and economic importance to all Yukoners.”
- “Use wolf harvest as a management tool to reduce predation rates of moose and caribou in local areas.”
- “Integrate ungulate management with wolf management goals.”
- “Manage wolves to address human-wildlife conflict.”

YOA intends to continue to support the program in 2012/13 trapping season subject to fiscal allowances.

¹ Yukon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan 2012 “Wolf management goals” Page 3

Appendix A Trapping by Community 2012



